

**From:** [Talton, Anthony](#)  
**To:** [McCorkhill, Michael](#)  
**Subject:** RE: FINAL SJ PR  
**Date:** Monday, February 22, 2016 8:01:50 AM

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Please discuss with me I specifically told Joan that I was told XA was accomplishing?

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-----Original Message-----

From: McCorkhill, Michael  
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 7:13 AM  
To: Talton, Anthony <Talton.Anthony@epa.gov>  
Subject: FW: FINAL SJ PR

I talked to Lisa - briefly - Friday regarding this. My proposal is we all need to get something down on paper that describes SF tasks in relation to WEB posting. My assumption has always been that Joan can't actually post to the web and has to submit content to Bruce for posting. Lisa and I will get this straightened out and provide a template process for approval.

-----Original Message-----

From: Bokun, Lisa  
Sent: Saturday, February 20, 2016 5:44 PM  
To: McCorkhill, Michael <McCorkhill.Michael@epa.gov>  
Subject: FW: FINAL SJ PR

Mike - be sure to read previously sent e-mail (entitled San Jacinto: Web Update) first. This is the 2nd e-mail I sent to Bruce after I met with him in the morning and he told me his side of the story about the San Jacinto: Web Update e-mail Joan sent wherein she said "6XA is directing.....". The important piece of this is..... when I talked to Bruce Thursday morning, he reported Joan told him she had an e-mail from her Mgmt. tasking her to post the documents and that's why she was about to do when Bruce called her down to talk with him. I asked him to send that e-mail to me and what he sent (below) is the same e-mail that was originally sent out by David. See my response to him below.

Monday, when you meet with Joan, please ask her to tell you what happened - particularly, what was discussed with Bruce regarding posting the San Jac documents when she met with him following our Web group meeting. I believe she will tell you that they talked about posting the docs on the SF website because that was one of 3 options we had sent to David so he could tell us which one he wanted and, since Joan is the primary one besides Adam Weese who can post docs to the SF website, she either: 1) "assumed" she was supposed to post the documents since they had talked about it ; 2) didn't hear or comprehend IF Bruce told her to hold until David confirmed 3) moved forward on her own despite being told to hold or 4) understood Bruce had directed her to post the documents and was moving forward as directed. Let me know what you learn.

My concern is threefold:

I don't know IF Bruce even told her to hold until David confirmed. IF he didn't, his critical communication failure will be the root cause of the problem for me to deal with and the lesson to be learned. IF Bruce did direct her to post the documents to the SF Website, ignoring my direction to hold and failing to wait to receive David's confirmation of the option he preferred, that will also be my issue to deal with. IF Bruce did tell Joan to hold until David

confirmed his option preference and she went forward anyway with the full intention of posting the docs to your SF page, you will have an issue to deal with. Thankfully Tony sent his e-mail to clarify that XA was to handle the posting and Joan did not take action. Depending on the outcome of your discussion with Joan, what would you think about meeting to have a "hot wash" so our teams could talk through what happened and the lessons learned as a result? Please let me know your thoughts. Thanks.

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From: Bokun, Lisa  
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 6:49 PM  
To: Fitch, Bruce  
Subject: RE: FINAL SJ PR

??? This is the same e-mail initiated by David about the final PR that you provided to me yesterday. I understood you to tell me this morning that Joan provided you with an e-mail from her management telling her to post content and she was about to do so when you called her and asked her to come down because you felt like something was going on. Your conversation with her followed my conversation with you and Cindy about holding further action until David confirmed what he wanted XA to do. Nowhere in this e-mail does her management tell Joan to post anything to the web. Instead, Joan is asking YOU to update for the web so, something isn't adding up. Why would Joan forward her management's e-mail to you and ask you to update for the web if she thought she was authorized to do and was planning to do? Simply doesn't make sense and to complicate things further, after the two of you talked, she then sent the e-mail to her co-workers saying that "6XA is directing that the following documents be published on the internet asap." Those documents were the PRP letter, the PP presentation and the January Fact Sheet. How she came away from your discussion with her believing or at least saying that 6XA (aka you) directed that documents be published is bizarre. Especially if, based on what you told me, she was about to pull the trigger on her own until you contacted her, learned what she was about to do and you stopped her from taking action. As I said, something isn't adding up. I will talk with Mike McCorkhill tomorrow to hear what he knows about this whole debacle and, depending on what he says, I may even ask that he and I talk with Joan if she is here. Now, more than ever, It will be important to understand what she has to say so I will be able to brief David accurately. We'll talk more next week.

From: Fitch, Bruce  
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 5:17 PM  
To: Bokun, Lisa  
Subject: FW: FINAL SJ PR

Per your request, here is the email that Joan sent me.

Bruce

From: Drammeh, Joan  
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 10:55 AM  
To: Fitch, Bruce  
Subject: FW: FINAL SJ PR

Please update for the web.

From: Talton, Anthony  
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 10:46 AM  
To: Weece, Adam <[weece.adam@epa.gov](mailto:weece.adam@epa.gov)<<mailto:weece.adam@epa.gov>>>; Drammeh, Joan <[Drammeh.Joan@epa.gov](mailto:Drammeh.Joan@epa.gov)<<mailto:Drammeh.Joan@epa.gov>>>; Mekeel, Edward <[mekeel.edward@epa.gov](mailto:mekeel.edward@epa.gov)<<mailto:mekeel.edward@epa.gov>>>; Coats, Janetta <[coats.janetta@epa.gov](mailto:coats.janetta@epa.gov)<<mailto:coats.janetta@epa.gov>>>; Little, Bill <[Little.Bill@epa.gov](mailto:Little.Bill@epa.gov)<<mailto:Little.Bill@epa.gov>>>; Harper, Stephen <[Harper.Stephen@epa.gov](mailto:Harper.Stephen@epa.gov)<<mailto:Harper.Stephen@epa.gov>>>  
Cc: McCorkhill, Michael <[Mccorkhill.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Mccorkhill.Michael@epa.gov)<<mailto:Mccorkhill.Michael@epa.gov>>>  
Subject: FW: FINAL SJ PR

FYI...

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From: Meyer, John  
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 9:00 AM  
To: Talton, Anthony <Talton.Anthony@epa.gov<<mailto:talton.anthony@epa.gov>>>; McCorkhill, Michael  
<McCorkhill.Michael@epa.gov<<mailto:mccorkhill.michael@epa.gov>>>; Walters, Donn  
<walters.donn@epa.gov<<mailto:walters.donn@epa.gov>>>  
Subject: FW: FINAL SJ PR

fyi

John C Meyer  
Remedial Branch Chief  
Superfund Division  
214.665.6742

[download]<<https://www.facebook.com/eparegion6>> [download] <<https://twitter.com/eparegion6>>

From: Gray, David  
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 8:40 AM  
To: Coleman, Sam; Edlund, Carl; Sanchez, Carlos; Meyer, John; Miller, Gary; Phillips, Pam  
Subject: FINAL SJ PR

Added sentence that PRPS agreed to do work to Press Release. Below is the final.

David

#### EPA DIRECTS ADDITIONAL SAFETY MEASURES FOR SAN JACINTO RIVER WASTE PITS SUPERFUND SITE

Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced new safety requirements for the temporary armored cap at the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site in Harris County, Texas. EPA has directed both International Paper and Industrial Maintenance Corporation, the potentially responsible parties (PRPs) for the San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund site in Harris County, to add 24 hour/7 day a week surveillance and warning buoys around the perimeter of the site boundaries. Inspection protocol requirements will be expanded and double the frequency of required underwater inspections from semi-annual to quarterly. In addition, EPA has instructed the PRPs to conduct additional environmental sampling from the temporary armored cap, sediments, surface water and groundwater. On February 16, the PRPs confirmed their intent to address each of EPA's directives.

In December 2015, EPA's inspection dive team discovered an area of possible damage to the temporary armored cap. Visual dive operations found displacement in the stone cover of the protective cap but could not fully delineate the damaged area or the full extent of damage to the protective cap. Pursuant to EPA's direction and oversight, the PRPs delineated a damaged portion of the rock layer measuring 25' by 22' (surface area). The precise cause of the damage to the cap is unknown and under investigation. The EPA has employed the assistance of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to further investigate the possible causes of the damage.

The PRPs were required to collect sediment samples both from the damaged area as well as the surrounding undisturbed areas of cap to confirm no materials have been released from the site. EPA obtained split samples from

several locations for analysis at an independent EPA approved laboratory. Quality assured sample results from EPA show waste material containing dioxins, a non-water soluble hazardous substance, was exposed due to damage to the armored cap. Sample results from the surrounding undisturbed areas of the cap did not show elevated levels of waste materials containing dioxins. Waste material containing Dioxin found at the site threatens public health primarily by direct contact to people. The San Jacinto Waste Pits site is securely fenced and public access is prohibited.

As directed, the PRPs deployed the necessary equipment and materials to repair the cap on December 29, 2015 and repairs were completed on January 4, 2016, under EPA review and field oversight. Both protective geotextile and rock were added to the damaged area. While it is unlikely that waste material containing Dioxin was released into the environment, additional scientific data is needed to confirm no materials have been released from the site. EPA has directed the PRPs to collect and analyze additional samples.

The PRPs developed an Operations, Monitoring, and Maintenance Plan under Federal Order by the EPA and completed work to prevent wastes from continuing to migrate to adjacent areas including the San Jacinto River in July 2011. The Order allows the Agency to require additional measures and investigations deemed necessary by the Agency from its periodic inspection of the protective cap. EPA is exercising that authority today.

Sent from my iPhone